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January 18, 2012

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The Honorable Roger Dickinson
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3126
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 526

Dear Assemblymember Dickinson:

The Little Hoover Commission supports AB 526, the measure you have authored that requires the Board of State and Community Corrections to move toward consolidating juvenile delinquency and gang intervention and prevention grants, to develop incentives for regional partnerships and to promote the use of evidence-based practices.

The Commission supports this measure based on findings and recommendations in its report, *Juvenile Justice Reform: Realigning Responsibilities* (July 2008). In this report, the Commission reviewed California's juvenile justice policies. The Commission found opportunities to consolidate and streamline juvenile offender grant programs. The Commission also recommended the development of regional rehabilitative facilities and programs for youth offenders.

In an earlier report, *Never to Early, Never to Late to Prevent Youth Crime & Violence* (June 2001) the Commission recommended the state streamline, coordinate and, where appropriate, consolidate funding for youth violence prevention programs. It also recommended the state develop simplified and unified grant applications.

For these reasons, the Commission supports AB 526.

As the bill moves through the committee process, I will be writing letters on behalf of the Commission to legislators urging aye votes. If you feel my presence and testimony at a hearing would be helpful, please let me know, and I will make every attempt to be available.

Sincerely,



Stuart Drown
Executive Director

c: Commissioners, Little Hoover Commission